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Letter dated 4 March 2003 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the statement by the President of the Security Council dated 3 May 1994 (S/PRST/1994/22). In the paragraphs of this statement dealing with stand-by arrangements, the Council requested me to report at least once a year on the progress of the arrangements for stand-by units and resources.

Pursuant to the Council's request, periodic reports on these arrangements have been submitted to the Council since 1994. During this period also, Member States have been consulted on the continuous improvements that have been made in the arrangements. In addition, the Secretariat continues to brief troop-contributing countries each year on the subject. Progress with this initiative is also included in the annual report to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations.

In order to avoid the unwarranted proliferation of reports, and in accordance with action 11 of my report on the strengthening of the United Nations (A/57/387 and Corr.1), I propose to consolidate the reporting on the Organization's arrangements for stand-by units and resources in the annual report to the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. Troop-contributing countries will continue to receive each year an oral briefing on the subject.

I should be grateful if you would agree to the above proposal.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**
Secretary-General

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